

REMARKS

Restriction has been required to limit the invention to one of the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1 - 33, drawn to a method, classified in Class 164, Subclass 47;
- Group II: Claims 34 - 41 drawn to an apparatus, classified in Class 164, Subclass 312.; and
- Group III: Claims 42 - 44, drawn to an article, classified in Class 428.

In order to be fully responsive to the Official Action, Applicants elect to retain the claims of Group I, claims 1 through 33, for further prosecution in the subject case. But Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications or to take other appropriate action to protect the invention lying within Groups II and III. The cancellation of the claims of Group III is merely provisional.

The groupings and explanations by the Examiner are not completely understood. The Examiner states in Paragraph 3: "Inventions I and II are related as process of making and product made." Of course, the product claims are in Group III, claims 42 - 44. The Examiner then justifies the Restriction Requirement by stating: "In the instant case the product can be made by metal working." Each of the claims 42, 43, and 44 depends from a method claim (claims 1, 27, and 31, respectively) which is specific to applying a "molten oxide compound" or a "molten mixture" onto a substrate. Applicants question how a molten compound can be applied to a substrate by metal working. The claims clearly exclude metal working which does not include application of molten materials. Further, it is not possible to apply a molten material "by metal working". Claims 42, 43, and 44 are specific to products made by the specific methods, and not by any other methods. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the claims of Group III be included in Group I, and examined therewith.

The Examiner states in paragraph 4: "Inventions I and III are related as apparatus and product made." Of course, the apparatus claims, claims 34 - 41, are in Group II, not Group III, as set forth in the Restriction Requirement.

In view of the foregoing election and remarks, an action on the merits of the subject application is now believed to be in order, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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